



Press Release

ITALY, VIMERCATE, DECEMBER 15, 2020

FIMER CHOSEN FOR LARGEST SOLAR PV AIRPORT INSTALLATION IN AFRICA

FIMER, one of the world's largest manufacturers of solar inverter solutions, has provided its technology for a 1.4 MW (megawatt) rooftop solar system on the Ahmed Ben Bella International Airport in Oran, Algeria's second largest city. The project is the largest rooftop photovoltaic (PV) installation of its kind in Africa and one of only a few global examples where solar has been used as a primary source of power for an airport.

The project – part of a major enlargement and modernization initiative at the airport by the country's transport ministry - will see the PV plant generate approximately 3,038 MWh of electricity per year, resulting in the airport receiving almost 30 percent of its energy from the rooftop installation.

Given the critical requirements for an international airport, which needs to be operational 24 hours per day, the project also demonstrates the potential of solar technology in Algeria, which has traditionally relied on additional off grid power sources such as UPS and gas gensets to power major commercial infrastructure.

While enabling Ahmed Ben Bella International Airport to reduce carbon emissions and become more self-sufficient, it will also support Algeria's ambition to have 13.5 GW (gigawatt) generated from solar plants by 2030.

As a country that benefits from a high solar resource, the Algerian government is committed to the development and promotion of renewable energy, with improvements in solar technology and reducing prices to make it an attractive solution for large-scale installations.

FIMER's chairman, Filippo Carzaniga, said: "This project is significant as it demonstrates the potential of solar as a major source of power for significant commercial buildings in Algeria, particularly for critical pieces of infrastructure such as airports. Being able to play a key role in powering the largest rooftop solar site on an African airport is a great achievement for FIMER. We are pleased to see our reliable and efficient inverter technology helping to maintain uptime as well as support the wider solar generation ambitions of Algeria."

FIMER worked in partnership with Globale Réalisation, which was responsible for setting all electrical systems at the airport. The company installed 46 FIMER TRIO-27.6 string inverters, which provide all the reliability and flexibility needed to handle any constraints and guarantee a technically-sound plant design. The inverter also has an efficiency of 98.2 percent and comes with two independent MPPTs (Maximum Power Point Tracker) for the best energy harvesting, no matter if the PV plant is arranged with more than a single orientation.

In addition to the string inverters, the project also uses FIMER VSN800 weather station to automatically monitor site meteorological conditions and PV panel temperature in real-time, transmitting sensor measurements to the data center.

CEO of Globale Réalisation, Mahdi OUNADI, comments: "Algeria is a country that has benefited from rapid population, urbanization and economic growth. With a climate that is highly favourable to solar, we expect this high-profile project to provide an example of what can be achieved, and to encourage future investment in the technology. We chose to work in partnership with FIMER as its inverters are perfectly suited to the outdoor installation and we are able to use its monitoring system to collect and analyze data to ensure the plant is



performing in the most efficient way possible. As a result, this project also helps to demonstrate the potential of PV for future major infrastructure projects.”

About FIMER

FIMER is the fourth largest solar inverter supplier in the world. Specializing in solar inverters and mobility systems, it has over 1100 employees worldwide and offers a comprehensive solar solutions portfolio across all applications. FIMER's skills are further strengthened by its bold and agile approach that sees it consistently invest in R&D. With a presence in 26 countries together with local training centers and manufacturing hubs, FIMER remains close to its customers and the ever-evolving dynamics of the energy industry.

Following the acquisition and integration of ABB's solar inverter business in the first quarter of 2020, and under the umbrella of the renewed FIMER brand the newly acquired solar inverter portfolio continues to carry the ABB brand under trademark licence agreement. www.fimer.com

For more information please contact:

Media Relations

Limegreen Communications Ltd
6 Featherstone Road
Birmingham
B14 6BB

Sarah Perrins
Managing Director
e-mail: sarah@limegreencommunications.com
m. +44 (0) 7774 925943

FIMER S.p.A.
Via John Fitzgerald Kennedy, 26
20871 Vimercate
Italy

e-mail: media.relations@fimer.com